

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SHB 1483

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Modifying the form for a notice of traffic infraction.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representative Pearson).

**House Committee on Transportation**  
**Senate Committee on Transportation**

### **Background:**

A notice of a traffic infraction is a determination that a person has committed the traffic infraction, and the determination is final unless the person contests the infraction. A person who receives a notice of a traffic infraction may either pay the fine or request a hearing to contest the notice. If the person fails to pay the fine or fails to appear at a requested hearing, the court will enter an order assessing the monetary penalty for the traffic infraction. Monetary penalties imposed by the court for traffic infractions are payable immediately. If payment is still not made within the granted time, the court must notify the Department of Licensing (DOL), and the DOL must suspend the person's driver's license until the penalty is paid.

If a court determines, in its discretion, that a person is unable to pay immediately, the court must enter into a payment plan with the person if less than a year has passed since the infraction became due. If the person has previously been granted a payment plan for the same fine or if the person is in noncompliance with any previous or existing payment plan, the court has the discretion to enter into a payment plan with the person. If a court administers a payment plan, the fee for the plan may not be more than the lesser of \$10 per infraction or \$25 per payment plan. A court may contract with outside entities to administer the payment plan.

If a person fails to comply with the payment plan, the court must notify the DOL, and the DOL must suspend the person's driver's license. If a community restitution program is available in the jurisdiction, the court may substitute community restitution for all or part of the amount due for the fine.

### **Summary:**

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

A form for a notice of traffic infraction printed after the effective date of the act must include a statement that the person may be able to enter into a payment plan with the court.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

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| House  | 98 | 0 |
| Senate | 48 | 0 |

**Effective:** July 22, 2011